(c) if not, whether reservation for physically handicapped in judicial service would be considered in consulation with the Chief Justice of India?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Under article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of Subordinate Judicial Service vests with the concerned High Court. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to article 309 read with articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the State Government frames rules and regulations in consultation with the High Court. The members of the State Judicial Service are governed by these rules and regulations.

Women Courts

2573. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have advised the States to constitute Women Courts to try cases pertaining to women; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government of Gujarat, thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, as per the information furnished by High Court of Gujarat, as in January, 2002, there was no Women Court functioning in the State of Gujarat for disposal of cases pertaining to crime against women. The High Court had made a proposal in 1999 to the State Government to establish special courts in each District in the State for expeditious disposal of offences against women under different heads, like atrocity, essential commodities, corruption, etc. The proposal was still under examination of the State Government.

Shortfall in earnings of Shipping Industry

2574. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Shipping Industry is back in muddy waters;

(b) if so, the reasons for shortfall in earnings; and

(c) the steps taken to bring stability in shipping industry?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the shipping industry is cyclical in nature. Its revenue and profitability depends on prevailing freight rate at a particular point of time.

(c) The Government has been taking various steps from time to time for development and stabilization of the Shipping industry in order to provide level playing field to compete in the International market. Some of them are listed as under:

- Import of all types of ships have been included in the Open General Licence (OGL);
- Ships (including second hand ships) can be imported freely now without license as per guidelines issued by the Ministry of Shipping on 15th June, 2001 and 5th March, 2002;
- 100 percent Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in Shipping sector;
- The proposed Custom duty of 5% on import of Ships in the Finance bill for 2001-2002, has been done away with.
- Enhancement of Depreciation rate from 20% to 25% for Ships.
- Section 33AC of IT Act has been made more attractive for Indian Shipping companies. The limit upto which reserves could be built up by the shipping companies for new acquisition will now include general reserves and share premium reserves also. Earlier it was limited to twice the paid up capital of the shipping companies.

Pilot project for welfare of disabled in A.P. and Karnataka

2575. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed a pilot project in